

Gray Davis, Governor

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Photography by Caltrans

Art Direction/Design: Page Design, Inc.

Printing: Office of State Publishing

Cover Photo: Bill Hall

A Letter to Readers

I am extremely grateful to the dedicated men and women of our agency for their professional contribution to the safety of California's motorists. The departments within the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency comprise the Governor's principal transportation regulatory and enforcement organizations. By combining their resources, we are making driving safer, as evidenced by the fact that the number of fatalities per miles traveled is now the lowest in the state's history.

As Secretary for Transportation, I am committed to having the best traffic safety programs possible, including anti-DUI, bicycle and pedestrian safety, occupant protection, police traffic services, roadway safety and emergency medical services. These programs and so many others are helping California

achieve its traffic safety successes, such as having the highest seat belt compliance rate in the nation.

I have a charge from Governor Gray Davis to improve safety on California's roadways. That means relieving traffic congestion, thus affording people more quality time for work and family life. We all enjoy getting home quickly and safely after a hard day's work.

One of our shared goals is to alleviate traffic congestion by stopping unsafe driving behaviors that contribute to accidents. Through funding for more law enforcement personnel and equip-

ment, emergency response vehicles and public education, we will make our roads even safer. We are also excited about the new partnerships being established with community-based organizations in California. This innovation will expand our outreach enormously. The Governor recently awarded \$11.8 million to local community-based organizations to promote traffic safety programs.

Traffic safety is everyone's business. Governor Davis and I look forward to working with all of you to improve the quality of life for all Californians.



Maria Contreras - Sweet

Contreras-Sweet

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

A Solid Foundation for the East Span

A \$7.6 million demonstration project to gauge the utility of battered piles

Putting the Plan to Work

California's transportation agencies answer the call for congestion relief

The Kings Stormwater Channel Bridge
Caltrans puts carbon fiber materials to work

Designing for Maintenance Safety

Alook at design features that could save workers' lives

Putting the Red Line in the Black
Caltrans assists Los Angeles MTA in developing new subway line

Route 395 – California's Newest Scenic Highway

California WILD - Wildflowers in Landscape Design
Using California's native flora to make roadsides beautiful

Victorian Streetlights Return to Historic Los Angeles District

A Caltrans architectural historian helps restore ambiance to an LA neighborhood

Route 30: A New Highway on a New Course
State-local cooperation brings traffic relief to the eastern Los Angeles Basin

Soil Nail Technology

Leading technology cuts costs and speeds projects

Speeding Projects to Completion

Caltrans responds to legislation to shorten project delivery times

Whither Metric?

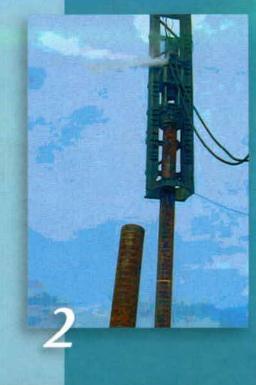
Caltrans will stay with world's system of measurements

People

What are Caltrans people up to these days? Lots of good stuff.

Editor's Notebook

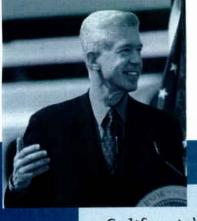
Journal Editor finds Buddha











Putting the Plan to Work

California's transportation agencies have responded quickly to Governor Gray Davis' call to funnel additional funds into traffic congestion relief. Caltrans presented 31 projects totaling almost \$400 million to the California Transportation Commission at its meeting on September 26 and 27. The Commission allocated \$187.8 million to the projects for this year with funding for the rest of the \$400 million to come as the projects continue to develop.

The new funds will be applied against projects that total almost \$2.5 billion, underlining the governor's objective of using the State funds to stimulate spending from other sources.

The projects range in size from a \$350,000 study of the Metropolitan Bakersfield Transportation System to a \$71 million improvement to the Carmenita Road Interchange on Route 5 in Norwalk. They involve numerous local and regional agencies in addition to Caltrans.

Governor Davis' Congestion Relief Plan, among other measures, provides about \$2 billion in first-time-ever funding from the General Fund, and another \$3 billion through redirection of the State sales tax on gasoline. These new funds are piled atop the \$12 billion in the State Transportation Improvement Program and the State Highway Operation and Protection Program already earmarked for transportation over the next six years.

Overall, the plan puts new emphasis on three main transportation challenges: easing congestion in some of California's most heavily traveled transportation corridors, improving the movement of commerce and addressing the frustration travelers face with transportation modes that do not interconnect.

The projects include the following, listed by amount and the requesting agency:

\$3.2 million Metropolitan Transportation

Commission – Study of a new crossing of the San Francisco Bay in Alameda and San Francisco or San Mateo counties and implement the Transbay Terminal Improvement Plan

\$15 million Caltrans – Initiate Environmental studies of a fourth tunnel bore for the Caldecott Tunnel on Route 24 in Alameda County

57 million San Francisco Municipal Railway – Reconstruct the San Francisco Muni Light Rail Line on

Ocean Avenue in the City and County of San Francisco

Investment Study for Interstate 80 in Solano County with focus on 1-80/680 Interchange

6100,000 North Coast Rail Authority — Environmental remediation projects for the North Coast Railroad

510 million North Coast Rail Authority – Provide \$10 million in debt reduction to the North Coast Railroad

\$50,000 North Coast Rail Authority – Match local funds for projects on the North Coast Railroad

§5.5 million North Coast Rail Authority – Provide fund repayment of federal loan obligations for the North Coast Railroad

640 million L.A. Blue Line – Extend the Blue Line rail line between Los Angeles and Pasadena

\$15 million Caltrans – Add a northbound HOV lane over the Sepulveda Pass on Route 405 between Route 10 and Route 101 in Los Angeles County

\$290,000 Caltrans – Phase 2 of a project to improve the Carmenita Road Interchange on Route 5 in Norwalk in Los Angeles County

\$2 million Caltrans – Complete a corridor study to improve Route 710 between the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and Interstate 5 in Los Angeles County

\$3 million Caltrans – Improve Route 101 between Route 110 and Route 23 in Thousand Oaks in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

\$1.5 million Caltrans — Initiate a project to complete three miles of a six-lane freeway on State Route 71 through Pomona from Route 10 to Route 60 in Los Angeles County

\$4 million Caltrans – Improve the Route 101/405 interchange in Sherman Oaks in Los Angeles County

\$1.7 million City of Los Angeles – Improve automated signals at various street locations in the city of Los Angeles

53 million SCRRA – Track and signal improvements on Metrolink in San Bernardino County

\$3.9 million Caltrans – Reconstruct the Apache Trail Interchange on Route 10 in Riverside County

\$1.6 million North County Transit District - Acquire one new train set to expand commuter rail in San Diego County

\$1.7 million Caltrans — Build new freeway connector ramps at the Route 94/125 interchange in Lemon Grove in San Diego County

52 million CSU Fresno – Develop preliminary plans, working drawings and related program management for CSU Fresno Events Center.

\$4 million Sacramento Regional Transit — Extend the Sacramento South Line light rail from Meadowview Road to Calvine Road in Sacramento County

\$20 million Sacramento Regional Transit - Extend Sacramento Light Rail System Folsom Line to Downtown Folsom and from 7th/8th Streets in Sacramento to the AMTRAK Station

516.5 million Sacramento Area Council of Governments – Incentive for reduction of emissions from heavy-duty diesel engines in Sacramento County

\$16.6 million SACOG/Yolo Transportation District— Provide approximately 50 replacement low-emission buses for Sacramento and provide Yolo bus service

\$350,000 Kern Council of Government Metropolitan Bakersfield System — Study to reduce traffic congestion in the metropolitan Bakersfield area

\$3 million County of Sacramento – Interchange modifications to the Route 50/Sunrise Boulevard
Interchange in Sacramento County

52.3 million Bay Area Rapid Transit District — Expansion of the Balboa Park BART Station in the city of San Francisco

\$2 million City of West Hollywood – Repair, maintain and provide mitigation to upgrade Santa Monica Boulevard in the city of West Hollywood

\$1.3 million SCRRA – Construct a new Metrolink siding in Sun Valley between Sheldon Street and Sunland Boulevard

\$160,000 City of Los Angeles – Remodel the intersection of Olympic Boulevard/Mateo/Porter Street and install a new traffic signal.



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